

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
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TAGS: PGOV, PO, XA, XG
SUBJ: PORTUGUESE-AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS

REF: LISBON 6823

SUMMARY: RPA PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO HAS INVITED PRIME
MINISTER SOARES TO ANGOLA IN THE AFTERMATH OF MANUEL
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ALEGRE'S RECENT VISIT. AN MPLA POLITBURO DELEGATION MAY
VISIT LISBON BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. END SUMMARY.

1. MPLA-PS STATEMENT ON ALEGRE VISIT: AT THE CONCLUSION
OF HIS ANGOLAN VISIT, PRIME MINISTER SOARES'S POLITICAL
ADVISOR MANUEL ALEGRE AND MPLA REPRESENTATIVE CARLOS
ROCHA (DILOWA) RELEASED A JOINT STATEMENT WHICH:

- STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF CONCLUDING A GENERAL TREATY OF COOPERATION BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND ANGOLA;
- AFFIRMED THE PS AND MPLA DESIRE TO BROADEN THE CONTEXT OF GOP/RPA RELATIONS;
- EMPHASIZED THE SOLIDARITY OF THE ANGOLAN AND PORTUGUESE PEOPLE IN SUPPORT OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS;
- REAFFIRMED PS SUPPORT FOR THE MPLA AND PRESIDENT NETO;
- ACCEPTED THE PS INVITATION TO SEND A MPLA DELEGATION TO LISBON SOMETIME THIS YEAR; AND
- NOTED THAT NETO HAD OFFICIALLY INVITED MARIO SOARES TO VISIT LUANDA.

2. PRISONER RELEASES: SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN TO LISBON, ALEGRE INDICATED THAT THERE ARE PRACTICALLY NO PORTUGUESE PRISONERS LEFT IN ANGOLA. FIVE PREVIOUSLY HELD PORTUGUESE CITIZENS RETURNED FROM ANGOLA AND THREE FROM MAPUTO SEPTEMBER 2. OTHER SOURCES CONTINUE TO REPORT THAT COSTA MARTINS, FORMER PORTUGUESE MINISTER OF LABOR, IS STILL BEING HELD IN LUANDA AS A RESULT OF HIS ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN THE MAY 27 COUP ATTEMPT.

3. OLOF PALME DELEGATION REPORTS: PALME'S INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST DELEGATION TO AFRICA MET WITH THE PRESS SEPTEMBER 1. PRESS INTEREST IN THE DELEGATION'S UNCLASSIFIED

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AFRICAN TOUR HAS BEEN MINIMAL BUT PALME DID MANAGE TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- THE NINE-MAN DELEGATION IS PRIMARILY A FACT-FINDING MISSION BUT THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL WILL EXPRESS ITS FIRM SUPPORT FOR THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN THEIR STRUGGLE AGAINST APARTHEID AND COLONIALISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA;
- THAT SUPPORT WILL EMPHASIZE THAT SOLUTIONS THERE MUST BE REACHED ON AFRICAN TERMS AND NOT BE IMPOSED "BY OUTSIDE FORCES."
- ABOVE ALL, SOUTHERN AFRICA MUST NOT BECOME A BATTLEGROUND FOR THE SUPERPOWERS.

PALME HAD NO DIRECT COMMENT ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS FOR RHODESIA OTHER THAN TO SAY HE UNDERSTOOD THE PROPOSAL TO BE A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

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